

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02069 181433Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----181434Z 123079 /43

P R 181335Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7772
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2069

EXDIS

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

DEPARTMENT FOR M AND NEA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: APER, AMGT, AFS
SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT FOR REGIONAL AID ATTACHE

REF: (A) STATE 083718, (B) 76 KUWAIT 3215

1. THE REGIONAL AID ATTACHE'S ROLE IN KUWAIT HAS BEEN MARGINAL FROM THE BEGINNING. EMBASSY EXPLAINED IN REF. B WHY ASSIGNMENT OF SUCH A POSTION TO KUWAIT COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED. SAME REASONS ESSENTIALLY APPLY TODAY. IN FACT, KUWAITIS HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN THEIR ABILITY TO RECRUIT TALENT FOR SERVICES NEEDED WITHOUT HELP FROM AID. IF EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IS DESIRED, THEY DO NOT HESITATE TO COME TO US, BUT BOTH GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS PEOPLE HERE DO NOT LIKE THE AID CONNECTION WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE USE OF A REGIONAL ATTACHE'S SERVICES.

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2. THERE IS REALLY NO PROBLEM IN KUWAIT OF A SORT WHICH A CFS ATTACHE CAN SOLVE. AMERICAN EXPERTISE, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT FURNISHED, IS ON THE GROUND HERE, WITH ABOUT A DOZEN EXPERTS INCLUDING HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIVE

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES. THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE AS TIME GOES ON. BUT THEIR RECRUITMENT, AND THE RECENT SUCCESSFUL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CFS IN WASHINGTON IN IDENTIFYING A SENIOR MANAGMENT CONSULTANT TO ADVISE GOK ON ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION, WAS EFFECTED WITHOUT THE HELP OF AN INTERMEDIARY ATTACHE.

3. WE THINK IT IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE WATCHFUL FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE REIMBURSEABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO KUWAIT, BOTH AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. FIRMS AND, WHEN APPROPRIATE, FOR USG AGENCIES. HOWEVER, I THINK THE EMBASSY, RATHER THAN AN OCCASIONAL AID VISITOR, CAN BEST IDENTIFY THESE OPPORTUNITIES. WHERE GOK INTEREST EXISTS WE WILL CONTINUE TO APPRECIATE AID WASHINGTON'S ASSISTANCE IN STAFFING THE PROBLEM. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT SEE NEED FOR PROMOTIONAL VISITS BY AID ATTACHE, WHETHER BASED IN THE REGION OR IN WASHINGTON.

4. THE PRCEDING COMMENTS SHOULD IN NO WAY BE TAKEN AS A REFLECTION ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PRESENT INCUMBENT OF THE REGIONAL AID ATTACHE POSTION. OUR POINT IS ONLY THAT THE POSITION ITSELF IS NOT NECESSARY FOR KUWAIT.
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

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